

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 423**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.07.2016

**Environmental Clearance**

423. DR. C. GOPALAKRISHNAN:  
SHRI RABINDRA KUMAR JENA:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken any initiative to improve environmental clearance process for infrastructure in the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the number and details of environmental clearance projects taken up by the Government during each of the last three years and the current year; and
- (c) the number and details of projects pending for clearance during the said period?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE**

**(SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE)**

- (a) The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has taken various initiatives to make the environmental clearance process more transparent and expeditious, without compromising the integrity of the environment. The initiatives *inter alia* include use of Information Communication Technology for environment clearance process, amendment of Environment Impact Assessment Notification, 2006 delegating more powers to State Level Environment Impact Assessment Authorities (SEIAAs), standardization of Terms of Reference for preparation of Environment Impact Assessment Report and Environment Management Plan, laying down timeline for finalisation of Terms of Reference in 30 days, exemption of highway projects in border States from scoping requirement and linear projects in border States from the requirement of public hearing subject to suitable conditions, exemption of construction of schools, colleges, hostels for educational institutions from the requirement of obtaining prior Environmental Clearance, delegation of the power to grant environmental clearance for mining of minor minerals (including sand mining) for 5 ha. of individual lease and 25 ha. in cluster, to District Level Environment Impact Assessment Authorities (DEIAAs), etc.
- (b) A total of 2306 projects were received in the Ministry during the last three years and the current year. The details are enclosed at Annexure-I.
- (c) A total of 432 projects are pending for environmental clearance as on 30.6.2016. The details are enclosed at Annexure-II.





**ANNEXURE-I referred in the statement referred to the Reply to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 423 due for reply on 19.7.2016 regarding Environmental Clearance raised by Dr. C. Gopalakrishnan and Shri Rabindra Kumar Jena, Hon'ble Members of Parliament**

**Project received for Environment Clearance during last three years including current year till 15.07.2016**

	Industry	Thermal	River Valley & Hydro-Electric	Mining (Coal)	Mining (Non- Coal)	Infrastructure	Nuclear, Defence & Others	Total
2013	155	27	20	44	140	171	12	<b>569</b>
2014	154	14	13	44	94	310	14	<b>643</b>
2015	260	18	14	61	216	225	07	<b>801</b>
2016 (upto 15.7.2016)	116	09	4	09	67	82	06	<b>293</b>
<b>Total</b>	685	68	51	158	517	788	39	<b>2306</b>

**ANNEXURE-II referred in the statement referred to the Reply to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 423  
due for reply on 19.7.2016 regarding Environmental Clearance raised by Dr. C. Gopalakrishnan and  
Shri Rabindra Kumar Jena, Hon'ble Members of Parliament**

**Projects Pending for Grant of Environment Clearance as on 30.06.2016**

	Industry	Thermal	River Valley & Hydro- Electric	Mining (Coal)	Mining (Non- Coal)	Infrastructure	Nuclear, Defence & Others	Total
Total	170	09	22	25	129	63	14	432